

CONSEQUENCES

CONCLUSION:

1. What about YOU?
2. Are you in covenant relationship with your Lord?
3. Or, do you still walk in rebellion, in sin?
4. The life lived in SIN may be enjoyable from the viewpoint of the flesh, BUT, have you ever considered the consequences?
5. Rebellion against God will bring Eternal separation.
6. We need to be warned of the consequences of sin, that we might be encouraged to repent and obey God.
7. 2 Cor 7:10-- *Godly sorrow worketh repentance unto salvation* --
Acts 17:30-- The Lord has offered you the assurance of the judgment, that through Faith in Christ you might be led to repent and obey Christ.

Vidor, Texas 5/15/66 3/14/71
2/11/79

Anahuac, TX 2/5/89

CONSEQUENCES

1. Matt. 27:11-25--Trial of Jesus, cry of the Jews for His death.
2. Jews desirous of being responsible for His crucifixion.
3. "His blood be on us and on our children."
4. However, just a short time later, Peter and John brought before the council, rebuked, threatened for their preaching.
5. Acts 5:27-28--"filled Jerusalem...intent to bring blood on us
6. These Jews give us a striking example of human nature:
MAN, under certain circumstances, accept willingly that which they strongly repudiate in other circumstances.
7. At one time, these Jews gladly accepted full responsibility for the death of Jesus, BUT--without any change in attitude toward Him or their wickedness--They sought to escape being charged with the consequences of their deed.
8. They never confessed their wicked act, but showed plainly by what they did to Peter and John they were of the same mind and persuasion they had ever been.
9. BUT NOW, They did not want to accept the consequence of Christ
10. They wanted to commit the crucifixion, but did not want to bear the consequence, result of it.
11. How often criminals, through the years, have tried to escape the consequence of their wrongs without indicating any change of heart toward the evil they had done.

I. A BAD CONSEQUENCE IS THE FITTING END OF EVIL DOING:

1. One cannot sow evil and reap good. Fleshly or spiritually.
2. If one wishes to harvest wheat then beware of sowing oats.
3. To simply lament an oat harvest is not sufficient.
4. Rom 6:23--"Wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God..."
5. Gal 6:7--Shall reap what is sown.
6. Man deceives himself when he concludes he can escape the consequences of evil, rebellion against God, indifference.

II. SINNERS DISLIKE BEING PRESSED WITH CONSEQUENCE OF THEIR SINS:

1. And yet, there is no way in which sin can be warned against without calling attention to the end it produces.
2. The person who has just begun to drink, as well as the confirmed alcoholic, resents frank reference to drunkards, their eternal destiny, and YET, no resentment against continuing to drink.
3. Sinners dislike being classified as such, but do not mind continuing in their evil course, in their sins.
4. People do not like being jostled from their desired path.
5. Evidently many in the church are guilty here--Leave us alone and let us do and live like we want to.

III. APPLICATION OF THIS PRINCIPLE:

1. There are selfish members found in local congregations, who are often much distressed by sermons on giving. They are not alarmed at their own selfishness, or the lack of work the congregation can do because of their failure to give, BUT they are angered at having conscience pricked. Not grieved over shortcomings, but grieved when pointed out. Instead of a change of attitude and more liberal giving to please Lord, become disturbed at preacher, Gal. 4:16. (And in many cases, either will seek to remove the annoyance, or run off and pout, and quit attending, etc.)
2. Others get angry because of teaching which points out the error of ABSENTEEISM from public worship. NEVER considering correcting their shortcoming and attending. Let us alone, do not warn us, BUT are we willing to accept the consequences of not enjoying worship. HEAVEN MISSED
3. Certain woman quit attending because of lessons against smoking. She smoked and all who stood close to her knew it! But, she did not quit smoking, she quit attending. (Reminds us--man who read so much about the dangers of smoking, decided something must be done--QUIT READING)
4. It is not nearly as difficult to get people so angry against a preacher that they cease to attend the services as it is to get such angry people to quit their sins!!!
5. Men love sin, but detest being identified as sinners.
6. They seem to have a marked distaste for righteousness, BUT like to be identified as righteous.
7. We get disturbed when reminded the Lord wants us to be busy, VISITING, WORKING, WORSHIPPING, CONVERTING SOULS, BUT not disturbed enough to get out and do something.

IV. EXAMPLE:

1. Balaam, in the very act of rebellion against God, said, "Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like his." (Num 25:10)----2 Peter 2:15--Loved wages of unrighteousness
2. He liked the Devil's service, but wanted God's home.
3. How true today--MANY desire to satisfy the flesh six days of the week, then give one hour to the Lord on Sunday.... We want to enjoy what Satan offers, and expect what Lord offers.
4. Men live in indifference, rebellion, preacher is expected to conduct funeral service filled with tribute, assurance.
5. Public demands preachers refrain from denouncing error and simply coddle audience with "sweet talk."
6. Too many church being built us with soft-soaping, the "scratching of ears"--2 Tim 4:1-6.
7. While error has power to soothe, no power to save. Regrettable that some prefer being soothed to being saved.